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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/081,050	02/20/2002	David W. Osborne	359872001400	2420

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EXAMINER

CHANNAVAJJALA, LAKSHMI SARADA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1615

DATE MAILED: 06/23/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/081,050

Applicant(s)

OSBORNE, DAVID W.

Examiner

Lakshmi S. Channavajjala

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 April 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4,7-22 and 25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1,4,7-22 and 25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4-8-05.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Receipt of IDS and response dated 4-8-05 is acknowledged.

Claims 1, 4, 7-22 and 25 are pending in the instant application.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments, filed 4-8-05, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1, 4, 7-22 and 25 have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made as follows:

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. Claims 1, 4, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US 6,060,085 to Osborne or US 5,863,560 to Osborne (as evidenced by Russell, AFP, 2000).

Instant claim 1 recites a method for reducing the number of non-inflammatory acne lesions comprising the step of topically applying a composition consists essentially of dapsone. Claim 7 is directed to a method of treating non-inflammatory acne lesions comprising the step as in claim 1.

'085 and '560 discloses topical therapeutic compositions for the treatment of acne. The composition is in the form of semi-solid aqueous gel, where in the pharmaceutical is dissolved and in microparticulate form (col. 2, summary of invention- both '085 and '560). Particularly, Osborne discloses that the composition is effective with dapsone as an active agent (col. 3 of '085 and '560). Examples 2-6 in col. 9-11

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(both the references) recite compositions containing dapsone, with other cosmetic additives such as methylparaben, which reads on claimed preservative. Table 1 (col. 13, both patents) recite 3% dapsone concentration. Both references disclose dapsone in a topical composition and for the same purpose i.e., treatment of acne.

Russell teaches that acne, usually diagnosed by the patient, is of three type i.e., inflammatory acne, non-inflammatory acne or a mixture of both (inflammatory and non-inflammatory) types and that the most common situation of acne is a mixture of both inflammatory and non-inflammatory (page 3, clinical manifestations & Figure 5, management of acne on page 10). While '085 and '560 does not disclose treatment of non-inflammatory acne, nothing in the above references indicate that acne (treated by Dapsone of '060 or '560) is not the commonly occurred form (as taught by Russell) and that the acne lesions are only of inflammatory type. Accordingly, both inflammatory and non-inflammatory lesions are inherent to the acne described in the teachings of '060 and '560 and therefore the claimed method of reducing the number of non-inflammatory lesions and the treatment of non-inflammatory lesions of acne is inherent to the teachings of '060 and '560.

2. Claims 8-12 and 15-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 6,060,085 in view of Russell and US 6,200,964 to Singleton et al OR over and US 5,863,560 ('560) in view of Russell and US 6,200,964 to Singleton et al.

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'060 and '560 fail to teach the claimed cream, lotion, spray, suspension and ointment formulations. Russell suggests preparation of acne treatment formulations in the form of a gel, ointment or cream depending on the patient's skin type (page 3).

'964 teach acne treatment composition comprising salicylic acid as an active agent for the treatment and prevention of acne (col. 1). '964 teach addition of active agents such as sunscreens, antioxidants, fragrances etc., (col. 4) and teach the composition in the form of spray, cream, lotion, suspension, gel etc (col. 7, lines 20-31). '964 further teach addition of dermatologically active agent such as dapsone in the composition. It would have been obvious to one of an ordinary skill in the art at the time of the instant invention to prepare the dapsone compositions of '060 or '560 in the form of a spray, lotion or a cream or an ointment, depending the type of the skin of the patient being treated because '964 teaches acne preparations in any of the above forms and Russell suggests creams are appropriate for dry skin, gels for oily skin, lotions for any skin type and solutions for dissolved topical antibiotics. Accordingly, it would have been within the scope of a skilled artisan to choose the formulation of dapsone (of '060 and '560) depending on the type of skin and also depending on the solubility of the compound and with an expectation to achieve the desired effect (treatment of acne lesions- both types).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lakshmi S. Channavajjala whose telephone number is 571-272-0591. The examiner can normally be reached on 9.00 AM -6.30 PM

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thurman K. Page can be reached on 571-272-0602. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Lakshmi S Channavajjala
Examiner
Art Unit 1615

June 16, 2005